

BULLETIN
OF THE
BROOKLYN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXXVI

JUNE, 1941

No. 3

CONCERNING NEIDIDAE, WITH NEW SPECIES AND
NEW RECORDS FOR NORTH AMERICA.

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The following records are based partly on specimens in the collections at Iowa State College and partly on specimens belonging to the University of Kansas. For the privilege of studying these latter I am much indebted to Doctors R. H. Beamer and H. B. Hungerford.

Aknisus multispinus (Ashmead).

I have seen a long series of this not uncommon little stilt-bug from New Jersey, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Iowa, Kansas, Texas, and Arizona.

Jalysus elongatus Barber.

I took a pair of this nice species in the S. Cruz Valley, south of Tuscon, Arizona, Aug. 15, 1937. The species is known only from that state. In one specimen (male) the process on the vertex is straight and directed obliquely upward and forward, while in the other (female) it is sharply deflexed. The male genital capsule is transversely sulcate just below the apical margin which is distinctly sinuate.

Jalysus spinosus (Say).

Many specimens of what I recognize as *spinosus* (Say) are at hand from Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, and South Carolina. I have three specimens from Iowa and have seen a specimen from Connecticut. In this form the genital capsule of the male is distinctly, transversely sulcate just below its apical margin. The antennal segments of the female are proportionately shorter than in the male.

Jalysus wickhami Van Duzee.

A very long series is at hand from California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Idaho, Arizona, Nebraska, South Dakota,

Iowa, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Georgia, and Texas.

This form has been much confused in the literature with the above very closely related one and some workers have been inclined to consider them identical, while others would recognize *wickhami* as a variety of Say's species. In the three hundred and more examples before me the male is readily recognizable by the nature of the genital capsule, the hind edge of which is thicker and stronger than in *spinosus* and more conspicuously, rectangularly excised. Furthermore, there is a faint though distinct, pale, median longitudinal carina which is confluent posteriorly with the slightly swollen posterior margin. The transverse sulcus that extends across the capsule in *spinosus* thus is not present in *wickhami*. The capsule is, however, shallowly impressed on each side. As pointed out by Van Duzee and McAtee the pronotum is more distinctly carinate down the middle and the antennal segments are shorter than in *spinosus*. The apical antennal segment is also in general noticeably stouter and the first rostral segment shorter. In *spinosus* males the distal three antennal segments, of a series measured, are in the following proportions,—48:65:26. In *wickhami*, the proportions are,—39:52:22.

Jalysus balli*, n. sp.

Closely related to *Jalysus spinosus* (Say) and *Jalysus wickhami* Van Duzee and agreeing with them in size and color. Head slender, the sides impunctate before and behind the eyes. Antennae brownish testaceous, the extreme apices of the first three segments and base of fourth pale, segment IV fuscous, its apical fifth white; proportion of segments (male), 80:40:48:24. Pronotum coarsely punctate, with prominent median and lateral carinae, the humeri swollen, the anterior lobe more distinctly flattened and the posterior lobe more steeply arched than in *wickhami*. Legs colored as in *spinosus* and *wickhami*. Ostiolar spine short, pale. Scutellar spine moderately long. Mesothorax with a prominent, rounded, pale callosity on each side above the acetabulum. Genital capsule of male much like that of *wickhami*, but the pale margin thinner and sinuate. Claspers not so broad as in *wickhami*. Length: male, 6.35 mm.; female, 7.20 mm. Width: 0.80–1.00 mm.

Holotype, male, and *allotype*, female, Patagonia, Arizona, August,

*(Note: This species is unquestionably very close to *J. reductus* Barber, the description of which has appeared in print since this manuscript was submitted for publication in May, 1939.)

16, 1937, H. M. Harris (author's collection). *Paratypes*, one male and two females, taken with types: one male, San Antonio, near El Salto, Mexico, June 10, 1937, Meldon Embury; and one male, Matzorango, V. C., Mexico, Feb. 11, 1892, Herbert Osborn.

This form is dedicated to Dr. E. D. Ball who spent two days with me at his favorite collecting sites in south Arizona. It is somewhat intermediate between the nearctic species and the species heretofore known from the neotropical regions. From the former it is recognized by the impunctate sides of the head; from the latter by the non-speckled legs and antennae. One of the specimens from Mexico has the antennal segments slightly longer than in the Arizona examples.

Jalysus tenellus (Stål).

Several examples of a form that I refer tentatively to Stål's species are present from Southern Texas. These were taken in Cameron County and at Brownsville by Doctor Beamer and his colleagues in August 1928, and June 1938. In these specimens the legs and basal antennal segment are conspicuously speckled with black and the distal antennal segments are dark with pale apices. The ostiolar spine is pale. The head is impunctate on the sides and the pale callosity above the mesothoracic acetabulum is quite conspicuous. The genital capsule of the male is transversely impressed below the distal margin, which is deeply excised on either side of the middle so that it is trilobate.

Jalysus tenellus (Stål) was originally described from specimens taken at Puna (near Guayaquil, Ecuador). Distant has recorded it from Mexico, Panamá, Brazil, and Argentina. In addition to the above specimens, which are the first records for the United States, I have examples from Costa Rica.

Berytus minor (H. S.).

The University of Kansas possesses a specimen of this European form taken by Dr. Hungerford, in Cheboygan Co., Michigan, Aug. 4, 1933. The specimen differs in no way from European examples in my collection. This apparently is the second record of the occurrence of the genus *Berytus* on this continent.

Pronotacantha annulata Uhler.

I took a long series of this form at Peach Springs, Arizona, Aug. 10, 1937, and the University of Kansas possesses a nice series, taken by Dr. Beamer at a point 65 miles south of Marathon, Texas. Specimens also are at hand from Zion National Park, Utah; and Indio, California.

Protacanthus decorus Uhler.

Specimens are at hand from St. Vincent, West Indies; Mandeville, Jamaica; Columbia, South America; and in the United States a nice series taken by Dr. Beamer at Brownsville, Texas, July 3, 1938, and Cameron County, Texas, Aug. 3, 1928.

Acanthophysa echinata Uhler.

In his very valuable study of the nearctic genera and species of the family Neididae (Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 27: 79-92, 1919) McAtee pointed out that his *Saurocoris instans* might possibly be the macropterous form of *Acanthophysa echinata* Uhler. Field observations during the past two seasons and a careful study of both macropterous and brachypterous forms taken together near San Bernadino, California and in Arizona only serve to confirm Van Duzee's opinion (Pan-Pacific Ent., 5: 166, 1929) that this actually is the case. Furthermore the discovery of a second species discloses that it too exhibits the same type of pterygomorphism. *Saurocoris* McAtee therefore must be suppressed as synonymous with *Acanthophysa* Uhler. Many specimens have been seen from Milford, Utah; Antioch, Lucerne, Mt. Diablo, Auburn, Monrovia, Dunsmuir, Jamesburg, Lemon Cove, Eureka, and Lake Arrowhead, California; Atasco Mts., Sta. Catalina Mts., Nogales, and Mt. Lemmon, Arizona; Hood River, Oregon; and Cliffdell, Washington. There is, as is to be expected, some variation in the size of the spines, and in the distinctness of the annulations on the appendages. The lateral edge of the posterior lobe of the pronotum is beset with five long spines. Antennal proportions: (brachypterous), 65: 25: 52: 15; (macropterous), 80: 30: 60: 18.

Acanthophysa idaho, n. sp.

Stramineous, the spines paler, the legs and venter distinctly greenish in recently caught specimens. Antennae indistinctly annulate, the enlarged apical joint black; proportions, 55: 17: 45: 18. Legs finely annulate with brown, the enlarged distal portion of femora and the tarsi brown.

Head with five antrorse curved spines on median line, and with spinules and low carinae near eyes as in *echinata* Uhler. Pronotum with spines on front margin, lateral margins, and disc of front lobe as in *echinata*; the posterior lobe with a median row of spines but unarmed between it and lateral row. Scutellum and hemelytra armed as in *echinata*, and arrangement of veins and membranes as in that species. Venter with

numerous fine tubercles, each of which bears a short seta. Ostiolar process slender, slightly curved posteriorly. Length 2.8-3.4 mm.

Macropterous form: General color and markings and armature of head, pronotum, and scutellum as in brachypterous form. Antennal proportions, 65:20:55:16. Hemelytra whitish hyaline, the corium, except outer margin, with only a few short spines; the juncture of marginal and terminal veins of corium far cephalad of end of abdomen. Membrane broad, well developed and extending much beyond end of abdomen. Length, 4 mm.

Holotype, brachypterous male, and *allotype* brachypterous female, Grangeville, Idaho, June 20, 1938, H. M. Harris; author's collection. *Morphotype*, macropterous female, Lacombe, Oregon, May 21, 1933, K. Gray. The Idaho specimens were found on the ground, around grass-roots, on a hillside. The species, while close to *echinata* Uhler, appears to be readily identifiable by the single row of spines on the disc of the posterior lobe of the pronotum as well as by the shorter appendages and the different antennal proportions. In both species the disc of posterior lobe is limited in front by a transverse row of spines, the central three of which are prostrate and directed anteriorly. In *echinata* the first antennal segment is subequal to III and IV combined and less than three times as long as II. The macropterous form of that species, like *idaho*, has longer antennae than does the brachypterous form.

Two Neotropical Polistes Imported with Bananas.—Among some wasps recently received from Mr. R. R. Dreisbach, and belonging to the Museum of the University of Michigan, there are three females of *Polistes canadensis* var. *erythrocephalus* Latreille, labelled "Cheboygan Co., Michigan, July 1932; nest in bunch of bananas. (H. B. Hungerford)." This is a characteristic wasp of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panamá and Colombia. (See J. Bequaert, 1940, *Jl. New York Ent. Soc.*, XLVIII, p. 10). Last summer Mr. R. A. Flock showed me several females of *Polistes instabilis* de Saussure, which he had taken January 1, 1940, in a store at Tucson, Arizona, from a bunch of bananas, presumably imported from southern Mexico. *P. instabilis* is very common in Mexico, where I know it from the States of Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosi, Vera Cruz, Hidalgo and Guerrero, and I have also taken it in the Republic of Honduras.—J. BEQUAERT, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.